

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

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O R 161335Z APR 76ZFF4

FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

TO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC 4492

C O N F I D E N T I A L MAPUTO 0406

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OREP (PERCY, CHARLES H.)

SUBJECT: CODEL PERCY

1. IN DISCUSSION WITH PRESIDENT MACHEL THIS MORNING FOLLOWING PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS, AMBASSADOR MENTIONED THAT SENATOR PERCY AND PARTY WERE CURRENTLY ON WORKING VISIT IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, THAT SENATOR AND PARTY WOULD LIKE TO VISIT MOZAMBIQUE, AND THAT SENATOR HOPED THAT IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT. TURNING TO VICE DIRECTOR OF OFFICE OF PRESIDENT, MACHEL ASKED IF THIS "THE AMERICAN" WHO NOW IN DAR ES SALAAM. VICE DIRECTOR QUICKLY SAID YES. IT WOULD APPEAR TANZANIAN GOVERNMENT IS KEEPING MACHEL THOROUGHLY BRIEFED ON VISITORS.

2. NOTING THAT SENATOR PERCY WAS MEMBER OF SFRC AND ITS AFRICAN SUBCOMMITTEE, AMBASSADOR SAID THAT MEETING WITH MACHEL AND TOP GPRM LEADERS WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL TO SENATOR AND WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO REVIEW NOW UNDERWAY IN SENATE OF US-AFRICAN POLICY. MACHEL NODDED AGREEMENT, SAID HE WAS BUSY WITH UPCOMING VISIT OF PRESIDENT KAUNDA, BUT HE HOPED HE WOULD HAVE TIME TO SEE THE SENATOR. MACHEL SUGGESTED EMBASSY WORK THROUGH THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MOTIONING AT SAME TIME TO LOPES TEMBE, DIRECTOR OF PROTOCOL IN THE MINISTRY, AS IF TEMBE SHOULD FOLLOW-UP WITH THE EMBASSY ON THIS MATTER.

3. IN RIDE BACK TO RESIDENCE, AMBASSADOR ASKED TEMBE WHEN AND
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HOW WE COULD JOINTLY WORK OUT A SCHEDULE FOR CODEL PARTY,

EMIHASIZING THAT TIME WAS RUNNING SHORT. TEMBE SHRUGGED HIS SHOULDERS IN DESPAIR, SAID THERE SIMPLY WAS NOT ANYONE LEFT IN MINISTRY WHO COULD WORK ON SCHEDULE. ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER PANGUENE AND HE WERE OVERWHELMED WITH PRESENTATION CERES, WHICH RUN THROUGH TOMORROW, WHEREAS OTHER MINISTRY OFFICIALS (OF WHICH THERE ARE ONLY A HANDFUL TO BEGIN WITH) WERE BUSY ON UPCOMING KAUNDA VISIT. TEMBE AGREED NONETHELESS TO TRY TO ARRANGE APPOINTMENT FOR AMBASSADOR WITH ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER OR ANOTHER MINISTRY OFFICIAL, BUT HE DID NOT SOUND VERY ENCOURAGING AS HE AND HIS ESCORT CARAVAN SPED OFF TO PICK UP ANOTHER AMBASSADOR FOR YET ANOTHER PRESENTATION CEREMONY.

4. DESPITE PRESIDENT MACHEL'S INSTRUCTIONS TO TEMBE TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR VISIT-AND TEMBE'S BEST INTENTIONS-EMBASSY IS NOT ALL THAT CERTAIN WE WILL GET IN TO SEE ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER OR ANYONE IN MINISTRY TODAY, OR POSSIBLY EVEN TOMORROW. AND WITH SUNDAY BEING EASTER, WE MAY NOT HAVE A SINGLE APPOINTMENT NAILED DOWN BY TIME CODEL PARTY IS SCHEDULED ARRIVE. AS MATTER OF FACT, AS OF THIS MOMENT WE DO NOT HAVE ASSURANCES VISAS HAVE BEEN AUTHORIZED. WE REGRET THIS, BUT THESE ARE FACTS OF LIFE WHICH WE HAVE TO LIVE WITH HERE IN MOZAMBIQUE.

5. IN ALL PROBABILITY, MACHEL WILL QUERY TANZANIANS WHETHER THEIR MEETINGS WITH PERCY HAVE BEEN USEFUL. IF RESPONSE IS POSITIVE, BELIEVE THERE IS STILL FAIRLY GOOD CHANCE PRESIDENT MACHEL WOULD ADJUST HIS SCHEDULE ON APRIL 19 TO MEET SENATOR. IF MEETING WITH MACHEL CAN BE ARRANGED, OTHER DOORS WILL OPEN-UP FOR US HERE AS WELL.

6. EMBASSY IS SENDING SEPTTEL PROVIDED OUR BEST GUESS AS TO WHAT A LAST-MINUTE SCHEDULE ARRANGED BY MINISTRY MIGHT LOOK LIKE, AND WHAT EMBASSY'S FALL-BACK POSITION WOULD BE IF MINISTRY OFFERS NO HELP WHATSOEVER.

7. AMBASSADOR AND STAFF WOULD LIKE TO MEET WITH SENATOR PERCY AND PARTY AND HOPES SENATOR WILL TAKE CHANCE AND COME MOZAMBIQUE EVEN IF NO ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN FIXED BY TIME HIS SCHEDULED

DEPARTURE FROM LUSAKA. HOWEVER, CODEL SHOULD NOT TRAVEL TO
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MAPUTO UNLESS EMBASSY ADVISES THAT VISAS HAVE BEEN AUTHORIZED.
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